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GOOD ROADS.

Mr. G. D. Mims Suggests Plan For Raising Funds For Building New Public Roads.

Editor The Advertiser: Just a few words. In a recent issue of the Chronicle I widely outlined a system of county government, looking to the improvement of the public highways in Edgefield county, which will no doubt cause a great many of our people to wonder where and how could we raise the money to carry out this new system? Well, let's see. Let's figure and reason a little on the proposition. I firmly believe that the cash books of the old Edgefield dispensary will show up that miserable old institution to have swallowed up \$50,000 of the money of our people per annum. But we will come down and suppose that this enormous sum was thrown away by 50 per cent or one-half of the people (that is to say our mer folk) and is forever gone without any material or moral benefit arising therefrom to any one, except the crumbs that went to the schools, the M-u-n-i-c-i-p-a-l-i-t-i-e-s. and county.

Now, I believe that when the whole people can be brought to understand and see a change for the better and that the money for the improvement of the public roads is being wisely and well spent, there will be but little opposition to the means sought to raising a fund for the lasting improvement of the roads. A tax of 50 cents on the hundred dollars of real, and personal property, 50 cents per rated horse power on automobiles and all self propelled vehicles, and 50 cents per horse on all animal drawn vehicles will raise say, \$40,000 in this county. To this the U. S. Government will add \$20,000, making a total of \$60,000 per annum. And this improved highway, conservative estimates show an increase in valuation of the property equal to double the cost of the roads. What would this mean for old Edgefield? Hold your breath, \$120,000, cut this in half, and the hair on your head would push off your hat. (Just let me relight my pipe.)

The foregoing may seem to some of you as an enormous proposition, but it is in no wise out of proportion to the real and burning necessities of our county, and we can accomplish our aim in this just as we have in raising a special fund to build good and suitable school buildings, and educate our children. What we need and must have first, is a change from the poor to a good and practical law to guide us. The speaking of the earth under complete direction to encourage us, and we would soon be building twenty miles of fine roads each year. The great Mr. Charles H. Spurgeon said, "I can't, never pulled the root out of the ditch, but I will, has heaved wonders." And those of us who hoot, scoff and express, "oh, it can't be done" are only contributing to that class of facts which Christmas Ward, says "Ain't So." For public roads are not subject to speculation greed nor private covetousness, they belong to all of us, and it is a duty we owe to our country, our people and our homes to make them permanent and travelable every year and to be an attraction and offer inducement to others to desire to come among us and make their homes within our borders.

Three of the worst curses to a country are poor laws badly administered, impassable highways, and promiscuous and unguarded consumption of mean liquor. But thanks to goodness these evils are getting less and less as times goes on. I will believe that it was the ordained destiny of man to be good and to stay wrong. We are, but surely growing out of evil into the better. The natural move is from darkness to dawn. The light of encouragement is shining upon us in the struggle to conquer the monsters of crime. Two score years our proud old county has shuddered in the stench of filth, but the morning is dawning. The jeweled mantle of civilization, will supplant the garments of the mire. May we all join in and rejoice in the morning of the golden erie of 1915. The people of this state is to be launched

School Improvement Association Entertainment.

On Friday evening at the College Auditorium the mothers and fathers and the children enjoyed a very delightful occasion. Then was such a good time for the parents, because the children had prepared such a pleasant surprise. They entertained us with a most interesting programme, when all the nations of the world arrayed in their own costumes were there to sing and speak about the customs of their own countries, and the choruses made all the mothers and fathers so happy and joyful that they forgot about the gloomy weather on the outside and the empty pocket books, and feel so thankful that they had the best gifts in the world in the possession of their little children. And when we had been royally entertained by their songs and speeches, they actually gave us a Christmas tree all decorated just like we used to have when we were little children, and they had made presents with their own little hands, and mothers and fathers and grand-mothers were all so thoughtfully remembered, that we were just as happy as we had ever been on a Christmas tide. The older children and High School girls and boys had a box party, and there were dozens of beautiful boxes full of the nicest things to eat, which were bought at auction by the young gentlemen, and then enjoyed together as they partook of it in lieu of their evening meal. Mr. Wad Allen acted most successfully as auctioneer. A nice little sum was realized for the work of the School Improvement Association. The teachers are to be highly commended for this splendid entertainment.

D. A. R. Meeting.

One of the pleasantest meetings of the Daughters of the American Revolution yet held was the one which met at the home of Mrs. B. Hollingsworth on Tuesday afternoon of last week. A very creditable number of members were present and some visitors. Mrs. Woodson, regent of the chapter, was present, and presided. Miss Gladys Chappell and Mrs. Fannie Tompkins were elected delegates to the Continental congress at Washington in April. The constitution and by-laws were read and other matters of business attended to.

At the close of the business program, Miss Sarah Collett, historian, took charge of the program, and Miss Miriam Norris sang "Columbia, the gem of the ocean." Splendid paper were prepared by Mrs. B. E. Nicholson on "South Carolina's part in the Revolution," read by Mrs. Tillman, and "South Carolina educationally, financially and politically before the Revolution" prepared by Mrs. W. C. Tompkins, read by Mrs. J. L. Mims. Miss Florence Mims recited a selection from "Timrod's South Carolina," the subject of the meeting having been "South Carolina."

At the close of the program Miss Anna Hollingsworth and Misses Charlotte and Mary Strother very graciously served the chapter with a most tempting salad course, coffee and whipped cream and a second course of nut jelly and cake.

The guests departed reluctantly having enjoyed a delightful afternoon with Mrs. Hollingsworth.

Due to the fact that I am agent for the Ford car, and having all repair parts in stock and a first-class mechanic, can afford to do first-class livery cheap.

Edgefield Auto Repair Shop.

Now, laden with our destinies for good or bad as directed by the captains at the helm. The results of our year's toil may be less than heretofore, but the supply is ample that none should go hungry or unclad. And let us not forget the homeless widows, the orphans and the bleeding soldiers on the battlefield of war-blighted Europe. Finally: We should begin the new year with the determined purpose and a resolution to contribute our full share to the financial improvement of our country, and the moral and social progress of our people, for we will always find enough people to do all the tearing down that is necessary and more too.

Respectfully,

G. D. Mims.

Clark's Hill, S. C.

JOHNSTON LETTER.

Elegant Reception Given in Honor of Bride and Groom. Mrs. Walker Entertained Chapter.

All social interest of the past week centered in the elegant reception given on Saturday afternoon in the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Crouch, in compliment to the fair young bride of their son, Mr. Earl Ovington Crouch, this happy young couple having recently returned from their honeymoon in Florida. This home was an ideal place for such a brilliant affair, and the lower floor was ensuite, and all was beauty and happiness. The decorations were of the Christmas season, and cluster of Christmas bells seemed to be pealing forth joyously and Christmas garlands and red berried holly were lavishly used. 100 invitations were issued and the matrons came from 4 to 5:30 and the young ladies, 4:30 to 5 o'clock. At the front entrance Mrs. Leon Stansell welcomed all, and Mrs. Carl Richards escorted them to the parlor, to greet those in the receiving line who were Mrs. Ovington S. Wertz, grandmother of the groom, Mrs. H. W. Crouch, Mrs. E. Ovington Crouch, Misses Elise and Annie Crouch and Gladys Sawyer. The bride wore a lovely creation of sea green covelet chiffon embroidered in gold designs, over green messaline, and was very daintily and sweet. The color scheme of this room was green, with green lights. The others of the receiving line, and all assisting were lovely toilets.

In the dining room Mrs. M. W. Crouch presided, and Misses Pauline Lewis, Isabel Bean and Elberta Bland served block cream in red, green and white, and fruit and pound cake. Miss Ida Satcher presided on the favors of Christmas bells. The color scheme in here was red and the table was beautiful, covered in a cluny lace cloth over red and garlands of red tulle came from the electroliter to the four red shaded tapers tiny red bells outlining the tulle. A tall outglass vase of crimson carnations was the centerpiece.

Mrs. J. W. Marsh invited the guests from here to the present room, where an elegant display was seen of cutglass, china, silver and hand embroidered linen. The groom's parents gave a handsome chest of silver. Mrs. James White had charge of this room and escorted each one to the library, after they had viewed the gifts. In here delightful music was listened to while sipping the fragrant coffee with cheese crackers, offered by Misses Maud Sawyer and Pet LaGrone. Mesdames J. L. Walker and H. D. Grant poured coffee from a beautifully appointed table. All was so pleasant in here that the guests lingered, loath to take their departure from so happy a scene.

It transpired that this date was the 25th anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Crouch, but to look upon this beautiful matron as she stood among her guests one could scarcely believe that so many years had passed since she plighted her troth.

The collection of the various classes of the Baptist Sunday school on the past Sunday were to go to the old preacher's fund, and when the secretary read the report about \$25 had been given for this good cause.

Miss Pet LaGrone entertained the Kill Kare club on Thursday afternoon, the chief diversion being progressive cards. Mrs. Leon Stansell was presented with the prize, a piece of hand embroidery. A salad course was served after the game. Mrs. E. O. Crouch was the guest of honor.

The Emily Geiger chapter, D. A. R. held the December meeting on Monday afternoon in the home of Mrs. J. L. Walker, the chief feature being the report of the recent conference held in Roek Hill, given by Mesdames E. R. Mobley and J. H. White. The subject for the afternoon was the "Women of the colonial period," and Mrs. William Scott gave a very interesting paper on this theme. She was assisted by Mesdames P. N. Keese, and E. M. Walker and Misses Orlena Cartledge, Pet LaGrone, Josephine Mobley, and Marion Mobley in serving an elaborate two course repast.

W. C. T. U. Hold Public Meeting.

At a recent meeting of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, it was decided that once during each quarter, a public meeting would be held at one of the churches in Edgefield, to be in charge of the members of the W. C. T. U. in the respective churches and their pastor, these meetings to be educational in their nature.

The first of these meetings was held on Sunday afternoon at the Methodist church beginning at 3:30 o'clock. The subject chosen for this occasion was "Alcohol in the practice of medicine." Promptly at 3:30 o'clock, Rev. E. C. Bailey opened the devotional service, the music being taken from the Temperance Hymns. Dr. R. C. Hammond, a Virginian, an M. D., and also a minister of the Methodist church, had been invited to speak, having come over from Aiken in his car. He made a very impressive address of his own experiences as a physician and gave very logical reasons for the banishment of alcohol from the medicine chest, quoting from many eminent authorities both physicians and scientists. The local W. C. T. U. at the conclusion of the service were given an expression of thanks for having given the public the pleasure of hearing Dr. Hammond. A collection was taken for the work of the union.

Union Prayer Service.

Rev. J. A. Walker has arranged to hold a union prayer meeting at the Methodist church Thursday night, December 31. All of the other congregations in town have been invited to attend and participate through their representative of their church. Mr. Shannonhouse will make a talk for his church, Mr. Bailey for the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Sheppard for the Baptist church. All of the singers in the other churches are requested to attend and take part in the singing. The holding of this union prayer service on the last night of the year is a splendid idea, and we are sure that all of the churches of the town will enter heartily into the meeting, making a pleasant and profitable occasion. During the service an offering will be taken for the Belgium sufferers and will be sent through Gov. J. C. Sheppard for that purpose.

Home Coming of the School Girls and Boys.

Our town is obliged to be gay for Christmas. So many young people at home again for the holidays and to shed the light of their beaming countenances on our otherwise gloomy atmosphere.

From the G. F. C. comes Miss Gladys Padgett; Winthrop, Miss Catherine Mims; Hollins, Miss Helen Tillman; Converse, Miss Nelle Jones; College for Women, Columbia, Miss June Rainsford; Chicago, Misses Lillie Adams and Marion Bailey; Coker, Miss Florence Peak; Clemson, Irvin and Elliott Padgett; Wofford, Gill Dunovant, James Hart, John Mims and Gus Tompkins; B. M. I. Rainsford Cantel-u and Egbert Morgan; The Citadel, Francis Sheppard.

Presbyterian Bazaar.

The ladies of the Presbyterian church have institutionalized the Bazaar in Edgefield, and the town expects and looks forward with pleasure to this occasion, so near the Christmas holidays, and so fraught with splendid opportunity to buy the most beautiful, useful and reasonably priced Christmas presents. Friday afternoon over the old Chronicle building this annual Bazaar was held and was one of the most successful of the years. So industrious had the ladies of this church been, that the articles provided by one of them alone would have furnished a small Bazaar.

Besides the beautiful and useful articles of all kind made by hand, there were oysters and every variety of good things to eat for which these ladies have already become so famous that no amount of crying of hard times and calamity howling could keep the people away, and the very substantial sum of \$90.00 was realized for payments on the Presbyterian Manse. These good ladies are to be congratulated.

HAMBURG RIOT.

Graphic and Accurate Account of The Hamburg Riot in 1876 by Senator B. R. Tillman.

As there has appeared recently several accounts of the Hamburg riot which contained some unintentional errors, we publish the following account which has been taken from Senator Tillman's speech at the Red Shirt re-union in Anderson:

"Judge Aldrich told you last night that he could tell more about the Hamburg riot than I could because he would not have to criticize himself. As for that I have nothing to conceal about the Hamburg riot. I told the republicans in the senate that we had to shoot negroes to get relief from the galling tyranny to which we had been subjected; and while my utterances were used in the Republican campaign book for 1900, I think my very boldness and the frankness with which I explained conditions did more to enlighten and disarm the fanatics than anything else I could have said. Even Senator Hoar was so impressed that he became my warm personal friend in his later years.

"Because of its potent influence in arousing the white men of the state to their duty I shall give you the story of the Hamburg riot in full, not dealing at this time with the two Ned Tennant riots and the Ellenton riot.

"The third of these disturbances or riots occurred at Hamburg in July, 1876, and this tragic episode in the struggle for white supremacy caused more widespread comment throughout the north, and was more far-reaching in its influence than the others. The people of South Carolina than anything of the kind which ever occurred in the state. Congress appointed an investigating committee to take testimony; and the bloody shirt was waved by the northern press and politician from one end of the country to the other. The two preceding disturbances of which I will speak hereafter, while causing great excitement and uneasiness, had resulted in no bloodshed other than the wounding of two negroes near Dr. McKie's; but the Hamburg riot caused the death of seven negroes and one white man, while two negroes and another white man were seriously wounded.

"The cause of the trouble as in the two Ned Tennant riots was the negro militia. The town of Hamburg, opposite the city of Augusta and thirteen miles below where I was born and reared and was then living, had been a prosperous mart of trade between 1840 and 1860. At one time it had a population of between 3,000 and 4,000 and did an immense business with the South Carolina planters. Owing to its liability to overflow by the Savannah river it had begun to decline, and at the time of which I write it was occupied almost entirely by negroes. The white population consisted of a few families. The number of stores was small. The negro population in 1876 probably numbered 1,200 and it had become an harbor of refuge for all of the cow thieves, cotton thieves, house burners, and other types of criminals among the negroes from the surrounding country. Owing to the fact that the municipal government was composed of negroes, the town marshal was a negro. Gen. Prince R. Rivers, an ex-union soldier, commander of the negro militia, state Senator from Aiken county and Trial Justice, lived there; the negroes were exceedingly insolent, and it was dangerous for white men to go through the town unless they were well armed. A negro militia company of about one hundred men had been organized in this lawless town and one Dock Adams was captain. On the afternoon of the 4th of July, 1876, this company was drilling and parading on Main street and as was usual a very large proportion of the negro population were admiring spectators. Two young men, Henry Getzen and Thomas Butler, both of whom lived within two miles of the town, returning home from Augusta whether they had been on business, found the streets blockaded by the negro militia company. The militia

were marching "Company front" and the line extended from sidewalk to sidewalk. As the young men approached, driving in the middle of the street, instead of throwing his men into "column of fours" or "column of platoons," or wheeling them out of the way, Dock Adams gave the order "Charge!" with a view no doubt of showing off before the assembled negroes and to compel the young white men to turn their horse around and flee. But they were not of that kind, and knowing that they had the right to the highway, as the approaching line of leveled bayonets came forward they stopped the buggy, and reaching for their pistols shouted: "We will shoot the first man who sticks a bayonet in that horse." There were more than one hundred negroes armed with Springfield rifles and gleaming bayonets, and several hundred others looking on. The negroes knew that they could butcher the two white men with great ease, but they felt certain one or more of them would be killed before it could be done. The captain shouted "Halt," and opened the ranks so that the buggy could pass, and in a little while dismissed his company and went to General Prince Rivers and swore out a warrant, charging Getzen and young Butler with interfering with his company at drill. Butler went on home and told his father what had happened, and Mr. Robert Butler, whose plantation lay above Hamburg and who had a great deal of trouble with negro thieves and was in every way a very pugnacious man, hurried to the same trial justice and swore out a warrant for Adams for obstructing the highway. The trial was set for the succeeding Saturday, July 8. The incident was noised about all over the counties of Edgefield and Aiken in a very little while and excited deep interest.

"It had been the settled purpose of the leading white men of Edgefield to seize the first opportunity that the negroes might offer them to provoke a riot and teach the negroes a lesson; as it was generally believed that nothing but bloodshed and a good deal of it could answer the purpose of redeeming the state from negro and carpet bag rule. Mr. Robert Butler sent to Edgefield for Gen. M. C. Butler to defend his son and son-in-law and prosecute Adams at the trial. Col. A. P. Butler, the captain of the Sweetwater Sabre Club, summoned our company to meet at Summer Hill, three miles from Hamburg at twelve o'clock. It was our purpose to attend the trial to see that the young men had protection and, if any opportunity offered, to provoke a row, and if one did not offer, we were to make one. We did not go in uniform and were expressly ordered to leave our rifles and carbines, so that when assembled we were only armed with pistols. Various schemes were presented and discussed but nothing definite was arranged except that we would go to Hamburg in a body at 4 o'clock, the time for the trial, and see what would turn up. The fact, however, that we had assembled was made known to Prince Rivers, and when the company reached Hamburg we were informed that the trial had been postponed; and it appeared for a while that all of our trouble and pains as well as the schemes we had formulated would come to naught. Dock Adams had assembled his company in the armory over the Sibley building, a two-story brick structure on the corner of Main and River streets. General Rivers had disappeared from town.

"There was much talking and planning among the leaders, the two Butlers and others of the leading citizens. At about 5 o'clock it was decided that the demand should be made of Dock Adams to surrender his guns and notice to that effect was sent him by Gen. M. C. Butler. He was told that he had shown the militia with guns were a menace to peace and good order, and that the whites having lost all patience were resolved to put an end to his outrageous and insolent conduct. When the demand was made he promptly and peremptorily refused. He was then told that we would take them. When the sun was about half an hour high the little band of white men, numbering about seventy in all, of whom forty-five belonged to the Sweet-

(Continued on Fifth Page.)